

NOTES

SOME PLANTS NEW TO THE PANHANDLE OF TEXAS.—Among plants collected in Hutchinson County, Texas, in May, 1964, were three species not known previously from the Panhandle and one heretofore unknown from Texas.

Astragalus wootonii Sheldon. North of Plemons bridge across the Canadian River, roadside in sandy soil, Mrs. Cliff Drake 2, 6 May 1964.

Hedysarum boreale Nutt. Canadian River breaks north of Phillips, Drake 1, 26 May 1964. First report for Texas.

Trifolium repens L. Backyard in Phillips, Drake 5, 15 May 1964.

Linum aristatum Engelm. var. *aristatum*. Canadian River breaks north of Phillips, Drake 7, 14 May 1964.

Specimens are deposited in the Herbarium of the University of Texas, Austin.—Mrs. Cliff Drake, 7 North Koopman Street, Phillips, Texas 79071.

IDENTITY OF *Xyris caroliniana* WALTER (XYRIDACEAE).—The name *Xyris caroliniana* has long been a source of trouble. In his *Flora Caroliniana* (1788, p. 69), Walter treated but one species, described as follows:

caroliniana 1. fol. gladiatis, scapo longo, floribus
luteis, filamentis latis barbatis. Stylo
trifido patulo, longitudine staminum.
Stigmatibus capitatis.

Sixteen or more entities of *Xyris* are to be found in the Carolinas alone, and the description is too inconclusive to circumscribe any particular species. For this reason the epithet *caroliniana* has been assigned in various ways or has been ignored altogether. Rendle (Notes on *Xyris*, Journ. Bot. 37: 397—399, 1899) declared that no specimens of *Xyris* exist in the Walter Herbarium at the British Museum.

No subsequent worker (myself included) appears to have taken the trouble to check the whereabouts of any possible duplicate specimen which might provide evidence as to the identity of Walter's species. Thus it was at the suggestion of Dr. Lloyd Shinnars, whose capacity for doubting categorical statements is well known, that I wrote to the Paris Museum regarding the Fraser specimen mentioned by Lamarck under *Xyris caroliniana* (Tabl. Encycl.-Ill. 1: 133, 1797). I also sent a series of specimens for comparison. Dr. Alicia Lourteig replied that a specimen did exist in the Lamarck Herbarium (Fraser, "de la Caroline Meridionale," "*Xyris caroliniana* Lam. Gen."), and that it matched perfectly a specimen sent to her under the name *X. flexuosa* (Demaree 32511). A phototype kindly sent me by Dr. Lourteig clearly shows the slender, twisted scape and acute, lance-ovoid spike so characteristic of the species.